GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:34
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND IN GIR FORESTS
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to protect the forest land in Gujarat specially Gir Forest;

(b) whether the loss of reduction in wild life has been reported due to the diversion of forest land; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c) Substantial part of Gir forest is notified as National Park and sanctuary. Central Government provides financial assistance for management of the area on scientific lines and to control poaching of wild animals under the scheme 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries'. These efforts have improved the population status of various species of wild animals including Asiatic lion whose population has increased from 304 in 1995 to 327 in 2001.